

JOHN'S AI FORECAST: 2027-2034

50% dates unless noted • Ratified August 11, 2026



10% chance of literal AI-caused or AI-enabled human extinction by 2050

Capability ≠ deployment ≠ labor substitution. Medical and physical progress still face real-world bottlenecks.

These are **personal, falsifiable forecasts**, not consensus estimates. The purpose is to preserve the model as it existed in August 2026, including aggressive timelines, uncertainty, bottlenecks, and possible failure points.

CORE HYPOTHESIS

FRONTIER CAPABILITY -> CODING -> FULL ML RESEARCH -> AI-DRIVEN R&D -> AGI -> ASI

The arrows are hypotheses to test. A milestone may arrive by another route, or the chain may break at any transition.

TAKEOFF AFTER FULL AI ML RESEARCHER

The four branches are conditional on the full AI ML researcher appearing. They sum to 100%.

5%

Much faster

About 15 baseline model-years in the first six months; later progress is left open after a high-uncertainty boundary.

35%

Reference fast

About 5 model-years in months 0-6 and about 10 more in months 6-12.

40%

Moderate

2x normal progress for 3 months, 3x for 3 months, then sustained 5x.

20%

Slow steady

Sustained 2x progress along the already-improving normal frontier trajectory.

Model-years describe successor-model capability. They do not automatically equal years of progress in biology, physics, therapy, deployment, or manufacturing.

HOW PROGRESS TRANSFERS INTO THE WORLD

- **Mathematics and science:** assigned-problem superhuman math comes first; research taste comes later. Physics is a far-transfer test of whether capability generalizes.
- **Biology:** virtual-cell screening can improve quickly, but cancer cures and lifespan extension still require experiments, manufacturing, safety evidence, and human follow-up.
- **Therapy and institutions:** digital therapist capability is forecast for 2029; major-system labor replacement is later because regulation, evidence, trust, and workflow redesign matter.
- **Robotics:** household chores need less cognition than AGI but more hardware time. The in-person robot therapist adds demanding social embodiment and physical safety.
- **Economic use:** AI performing half of computer-based cognitive work is not the same as half of workers losing jobs. Employment also depends on demand elasticity and unmet need.

WHAT A 50% DATE MEANS

- A 50% date is a median: roughly half the forecast probability is on the milestone occurring by that date and half is later or not yet.
- The dates are John's judgmental marginals, checked against the causal branches rather than mechanically generated by them.
- Coder and ML-researcher forecasts also preserve explicit 25th and 75th percentile dates in the full ledger.

RISK AND CONDITIONING

- Capability forecasts assume a **continuing human world**: civilization, development, and trustworthy evaluation remain intact through the deadline.
- The extinction forecast is separate and unconditional: **10% literal AI-caused or AI-enabled human extinction by 2050.**
- The full ledger assigns **70% to ASI within one year of AGI**, including possible safety slowdowns and technical friction.

FIXED CAPABILITY THRESHOLDS

- **AGI:** at least best-relevant-human performance across essentially every broad cognitive category; physical execution is separate.
- **ASI:** meaningfully better than the best humans across every broad cognitive category, with no merely-human domain remaining.
- **Therapist:** top-quartile adaptive treatment, safety, formulation, modality use, rupture repair, and live interaction - not merely a scripted CBT protocol.

WHAT WOULD MAKE THE MODEL UPDATE

- Superhuman coding arrives, but ML-research taste stays difficult.
- Full AI ML research arrives, but successor-model acceleration stays modest.
- Model gains fail to transfer into math, science, therapy, or reliable agents.
- Capability arrives, but physical and institutional deployment lags far longer.